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TURNER VOTE IS TODAY

CIA-Bound Admiral Wins Panel's Unanimous Praise

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WASHINGTON—Occasionally glancing at a hand-lettered placard reminding him to keep his answers "crisp" and "positive," Adm. Stansfield Turner Tuesday won the unanimous praise of senators considering his nomination as CIA director.

In contrast to the opposition which President Carter's first choice for the job, Theodore C. Sorensen, encountered on the Senate Intelligence Committee, Turner received assurances of easy confirmation. Sorensen withdrew his name after strong opposition put his confirmation in doubt.

Chairman Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) said the committee would vote today to send Turner's nomination to the full Senate, where approval seems certain.

"I would say you can go with confidence you will be confirmed," Inouye told Turner as the admiral prepared to leave the Capitol after 3½ hours of mostly friendly questioning.

Turner said he brought along the card on which he had lettered in red the words "crisp" and "positive" because his staff had warned him that he had a tendency to "talk too much."

The only issue that seemed to trouble committee members was Turner's decision to continue on active duty as a four-star admiral. Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.) said he had reservations about a military man for the CIA job but said the doubts were not serious enough to prevent him from voting to approve the nomination.

Sen. Joe Biden (D-Del.) suggested

that Turner might use the CIA post as a stepping stone to either chief of naval operations or chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Turner responded that he was not seeking any other office but was willing to serve in any capacity in which Carter, his former Naval Academy classmate, wanted him.

Turner was adamant in refusing to resign his commission. He noted that the law that established the CIA permits the director to be either a civilian or a military man, and he noted that three former directors had been military officers.

During a break in the hearing, Turner told reporters he believed his resignation would be a subterfuge since he plans to return to active naval duty after his CIA service.

Since he has already served 30 years and thus qualifies for maximum pension benefits, Turner said, his decision will cost him about \$17,000 a year. Under the law he could draw a full salary as CIA director in addition to his military retirement benefits, but if he remains on active duty, he can receive only the CIA salary.

The committee asked Turner for specifics about CIA activities. However, in answer to questions, he did make these points:

—He would support legislation providing "civil sanctions" for CIA officials and other government employees who break their

oath not to divulge classified information. And he would prepare the draft of such a law for consideration by Congress.

—The CIA should engage in covert efforts to manipulate events in other countries only if there is no open way to obtain the same result and if the benefits clearly outweigh the risks, including the risk of disclosure.

—He would not rule out the possibility that the CIA might use reporters, academics and clergymen in covert activities. "I would be reluctant to think that a member of an academic community would be denied his right of serving his country in any legal way that he wants," he said. He indicated later that the same theory applied to reporters and clergymen.

—He would resign rather than carry out an order from the White House to engage in illegal or unconstitutional activities.

—He would not permit the CIA to plot the assassination of foreign leaders "in peacetime."

—He does not want subordinates to keep him in the dark about questionable activities so he could later say truthfully that he knew nothing about them. He said, "If I ever have to come to this committee and learn that I did not know of something, I will accept the responsibility."

When I get back to the agency my subordinate (who failed to keep him informed) had better be able to accept the responsibility as well."